ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES

NEWS RELEASE



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Togiak Herring Announcement 9

This is the Alaska Department of Fish & Game in Dillingham with an update regarding the Togiak herring fishery.

The purse seine harvest for May 20 was 2,040 tons, bringing the total purse seine harvest to 8,420 tons with an average roe content of 10.3% and an average weight of 341 grams. The gillnet harvest for May 20 was 633 tons, making the total gillnet harvest to date 1,368 tons with an average roe content of 12% and an average weight of 425 grams.

The purse seine fleet has harvested 55% of their quota while the gillnet fleet has harvested 21% of their quota. The disparity between the gillnet harvest and the purse seine harvest has increased each day and is expected to increase again today. **5AAC 27.865** Bristol Bay Herring Management Plan (b) (8) mandates the department manage for the specified harvest percentages until both gear groups have harvested 50% of their quotas. Because of the increasing disparity in harvest percentages, the purse seine fishery will close as scheduled at 10:00 p.m. May 21. The department will collect harvest information for May 22nd fishing on Wednesday May 23rd, and will consider an additional seine opening for the afternoon of May 23rd.

This has been the Alaska Department of Fish and Game in Dillingham.